

A Day in the Death of Stephan Voltov

pt. 1 (scenes 1-2)

A 45-minute opera in 1 act, 5 scenes for 6 characters,
vocal quartet, Chamber Orchestra and 4 prerecorded
tapes arranged quadraphonically.

Written as the composer's Master's Thesis, it was
staged several times in the late 1970's.

David R. Holsinger

Unbound Manuscript Score

Original Size: 10.5" x 13.5"

A DAY IN THE DEATH OF STEPHAN VOLTOV

Adagio

DEATH



Adagio



COMPLETE DARKNESS

STAGE AREA AND AUDITORIUM DARK

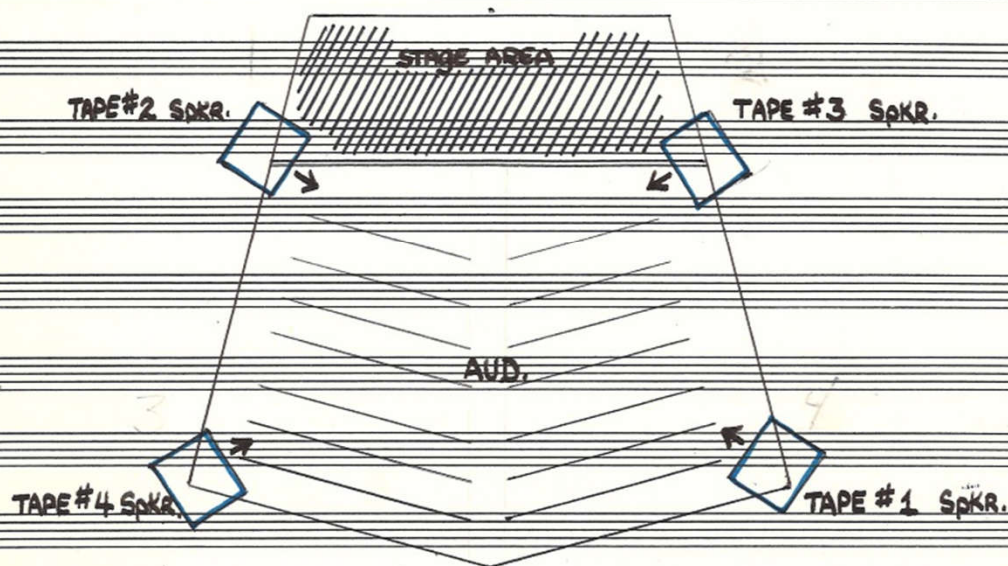
(ALL TAPES - $\text{♩} = 60$)

TAPE 1 (TO THRU-OUT)

Handwritten musical score for Tape 1, marked "TO THRU-OUT". The score is written on four staves, each with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The instruments listed on the left are:

- VN 1, 2 (Violins 1 and 2)
- VN 3, 4, 5 (Violins 3, 4, and 5)
- VLA 1, 2 (Violas 1 and 2)
- CELLO

The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals across the staves.



TAPE 1

Handwritten musical score for Tape 1, featuring vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The lyrics include "of god!", "away!", and "THAT". The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

TAPE 2 (P THRU-OUT)

Handwritten musical score for Tape 2, featuring vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The lyrics include "OH LAMB!", "THAT TAK-EST!", and "A-WAY!". The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

VOCAL QUARTET (PRISONERS)

I. MEZZO SOPRANO

II. BASS

III. SOPRANO

IV. TENOR

PERC. (Percussion) section with handwritten notes and musical notation. The notes include "sus. cym.", "STK/CH.", "Large Tam", and "5/5". The notation includes notes, rests, and dynamic markings.



TAPE 1

(I) **TAK-EST!** **AWAY!** **THE SING OF THE WORLD!** **spk.** **WE ARE LATE FOR A-** **(III) spk.** **PRETTY PLEASE!**

TAPE 2

(I) **THAT** **TAK-EST-S-S-S-ST!** **(III) 3** **AWAY!** **spk. (IV)** **TICK! TACK! GOES THE CLOCK!** **HAVE MER-**

TAPE 3 (P THRU-OUT)

(IV) **spk.** **THE SING OF THE WORLD!** **(I) spk.** **TICK, TACK, TICK, TACK, TACK** **(IV) spk.** **SEE-E-E-E-E-E!**

PERC. **TEMPLE BKS.** **cow bell** **LARGE Tom** **sf**



TAPE 1

TAPE 2

TAPE 3

TAPE 4 (P THRU-OUT)

Handwritten musical score for 24 staves. The score is divided into four sections labeled TAPE 1, TAPE 2, TAPE 3, and TAPE 4 (P THRU-OUT). The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Key markings include:

- TAPE 1:** (III) #, GRANT, (ALL) Spk., sf, PEAC-S-S-S.
- TAPE 2:** (II) Spk., AND IN AD-DI-TION!, (ALL) Spk., sf, PEAC-S-S-S.
- TAPE 3:** (II) 3, up-ON US!, (I) THY!, (ALL) Spk., sf, PEAC-S-S-S.
- TAPE 4:** (II) US, cym., Tomale 5 BUCCS., PERC., sf, sff.

The score is written on 24 staves, with each staff containing musical notation and lyrics. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The lyrics are written below the staves. The score is divided into four sections labeled TAPE 1, TAPE 2, TAPE 3, and TAPE 4 (P THRU-OUT). The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Key markings include:



(3)

TAPES END

TAPE 1

TAPE 2

TAPE 3

TAPE 4

SOFT RED LIGHTS UP ON ALL FIGURES, WITH EXCEPTION OF PRISONERS, STAND SILENTLY IN PLACE —

DIM RED LIGHTS UP / ENTIRE STAGE AREA

① 60-63

xylo wind chime

PERC. 3 gang p d. (LET RING)

4 B.D. *fp*

(IV)



ENTIRE STAGE
f RINGMASTER AND
AND MOTIONLESSLY

Musical notation on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Labels include "Bells", "cym. (scrpd)", "w. ch.", "xylo.", "w. b's", and "mf". There are also some handwritten notes like "p." and "mf".

4
4

Musical notation for a piano part. It includes a bass clef, notes, and dynamic markings. Labels include "PIANO", "p", and "(lot ring)". A red circle highlights the word "fff".

1 MIN. 16 SEC.

3
19
4
76

20
22 SEC.



Handwritten musical score for five instruments: VIOLIN, FLUTE, PERC., TRUMPET, and CELLO. The score is written on five staves, each with a 4/4 time signature. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

VIOLIN: Starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a quarter note B4. It ends with a whole note G4.

FLUTE: Starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a quarter note B4. It ends with a whole note G4.

PERC.: Starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a quarter note B4. It ends with a whole note G4.

TRUMPET: Starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and a quarter note B4. It ends with a whole note G4.

CELLO: Starts with a whole note G2, followed by a half note A2, and a quarter note B2. It ends with a whole note G2.

Dynamic markings include *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). There are also handwritten notes like "cym. (scp.)", "xylo", "vibes", "B.D.", and "let ring".



PRISON QUARTET, FOLLOWED BY RINGMASTER, ENTER STAGE RIGHT, CROSS
AND ASCEND STAIRCASE TO CELL AREA.

Musical score for various instruments including Harpsichord, Violin, Flute, Percussion, French Horn, Trombone, Cello, and Piano. The score includes handwritten annotations such as *mf*, *pp*, *f*, *fff*, *LET RING*, *W. CH.*, *Med. Tom*, *xylo*, *TEM. BLKS.*, and *B.B.D.*. There are also red circles around some notes and dynamic markings.

5
4



Handwritten musical score on 24 staves. The score includes parts for Xylo., PERC., FR. HORN, Cello, VIBES, W. CH., and PIANO. The music is written in 5/4 and 4/4 time signatures. There are several handwritten annotations in red ink, including the number '5' on the Xylo. staff, '4' on the PERC. staff, and '5' and '4' on the right margin. A large diagonal watermark 'COPYRIGHTED DO NOT DUPLICATE' is visible across the page.



RINGMASTER: 

To-day - seems to be-gin in an ex-tro-di-na-ry way -

(2)

10 VIOLIN 

FLUTE 

CLARINET 

BASSOON 

PERC. 

TRUMPET 

FR. HORN 

TROMBONE 

BELLO 



V **RINGMASTER:** *I SENSE THE OLD MU-SIC, BUT I SMELL THE STENCH OF NEW DEATH!*

PRISONERS (QUARTET) *OH LAMB OF LAW*

VIOLIN

FLUTE

CLARINET

BASSOON

PERC.

TRUMPET

FR. HORN

TROMBONE

CELLO

mf *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*



RINGMASTER

QUARTET

(STAGE WHISPER)

(SARCASTICALLY OVER-DROMATIC)

WHO TAKE A WAY THE WILL OF THE FREE! HAVE MER-CY UP-ON US (RANDOM LAUGHTER)

FLUTE

CLARINET

BASSOON

PERC.

HARPSICHORD



CAME ON R.M. FADES OUT

(SPOKEN)

RINGMASTER

STRANGE!

VERY STRANGE!

QUARTET

SSH!
(Z) ss

PIANO

sf

ped.

LET RING

mf

sf

PERC.

VIBES

3

LET RING

w. CH.

w. B.

pp

TEM. BLK.

3

w. CH.

XYLO.

p

HARPSICHORD

LET RING



SCENE ONE

SCENE 1

CENTER SPOTS COME UP — FIRST SPOT IMMEDIATELY TO FRONT OF JUDGE/DOCTOR #1 AND FORWARD. SECOND SPOT CENTER AND FORWARD OF FOOT OF STAIRCASE. STEPHAN AND WIFE ENTER BETWEEN CARD PLAYERS AREA AND JUDGE/DOCTOR #1 TO FIRST SPOT AREA.

③

STEPHAN

COME, DEAR WIFE! OUR NEW HOME — COME LOOK AT IT!

VIOLIN

CLARINET

BASSOON

TRUMP.

TROMB.

CELLO

PIANO

3
4

34

STEPHAN *Chosen by my own design. To please you! E-le-gant and beau-ti-ful!*

WIFE *E-le-gant! I am pleased! Re-fined and not-hing vul-gar!*

VIOLIN *1st Transposition*

FLUTE

CLARINET

BAROON

TRUMP.

FR. HN.

TROMB.

CELLO

STEPHAN *NO VUL-GAR-I-TY IN THE HOME OF STEPHAN VOL-TOU! THE NEW CHIEF JUS-TICE AND HIS WIFE!*

WIFE *DE-LI-CIOUS VUL-GAR-I-TY! I am pleased!*

VIOLIN

CLARINET

BAROON

FR. HN.

CELLO



STEPHAN AND WIFE MOVE ~~TO~~ ^{FORWARD}
INTO SECOND SPOT AREA.

4

100

4

♩ = 68, 126

Musical score for STEPHAN, WIFE, and orchestra. The score is written on 24 staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two measures by a red vertical line. The first measure contains the vocal parts and the beginning of the orchestral accompaniment. The second measure contains the continuation of the vocal parts and the orchestral accompaniment. The vocal parts are for STEPHAN and WIFE. The orchestral parts are for FLUTE, CLARINET, BASSOON, TRUMPET, FR. HN., TRUMB., CELLO, PERC., and PIANO. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. There are also stage directions in parentheses.

STEPHAN (STAGE WHISPER) THE DRAWING ROOM! THE SCREEN, THE WHAT-NOT!

WIFE THE FIRE-PLACE! THE LITTLE CHAIRS!

FLUTE

CLARINET

BASSOON

TRUMPET

FR. HN.

TRUMB.

CELLO

PERC.

PIANO

(MUTE)

(TEM. BLKS.)

4



STEPHAN

COUNT THEM! 1! - 2! - 3! - 4!

WIFE

1! - 2! - 3! - 4! WITH THE FI- NEST LEAT-HER!

VIOLIN

CLARINET

BASSOON

TRUMP.

FR. Hrn.

TRMBS.

CELLO

PERC.

PIANO

ORCHESTRA

SC

STEFHAN 5/8 2/4 5/8
 OF HER FOR A DEAR WIFE BUT EL-E-GANCE! BEAU-TY! EX- PEN-SIVE!

WIFE 5/8 2/4 5/8
 EL-E-GANCE! BEAU-TY! I AM PLEASED!

VIOLIN 5/8 2/4 5/8
 FLUTE 5/8 2/4 5/8
 CLARINET 5/8 2/4 5/8
 BASSOON 5/8 2/4 5/8
 TRUMP. 5/8 2/4 5/8
 FR. HN. 5/8 2/4 5/8
 TROMB. 5/8 2/4 5/8
 CELLO 5/8 2/4 5/8
 PERC. 5/8 2/4 5/8



STEFAN THE BRONZ- ES! AND THE DOAPES! LOOK AT THE DOAPES! BUT

WIFE THE BRONZ- ES HOW EX- PEN- SIVE!

VIOLIN

FLUTE

CLARINET

BASSOON

TRUMP.

EG. HN.

TROMB.

CELLO

PERC. (VIBE)

PIANO

PIZZ.



Handwritten musical score for a 24-stave ensemble. The score includes vocal parts and instrumental parts for various instruments. The lyrics are: "TAST-FUL! By ALL STANDARDS HUM-BLE! PRAY".

Vocal Parts:

- STEPHAN:** TAST-FUL! (first measure), HUM-BLE! (second measure)
- WIFE:** By ALL STANDARDS HUM-BLE! (first measure), PRAY (second measure)

Instrumental Parts:

- VIOLIN:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- FLUTE:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- CLARINET:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- BASSOON:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- TRUMP:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- FR. HORN:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- TRONG:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- CELLO:** Melodic line with a slur over the first measure.
- PERC:** (gong) (second measure), (let ring) (third measure)

Handwritten Annotations:

- ARC:** Above the Violin staff.
- 11th Transposition:** Written in blue ink below the Trump staff.
- 3/4:** Time signature change indicated by a red bracket on the Flute and Trombone staves.



SLOWER

⑤ 4/4 CA. 62

[IN A SUDDEN RAGE]

STEPHAN

WIFE

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

ugly!

DON'T YOU SEE IT!

VIOLIN

FLUTE

CLARINET

BASSOON

TRUMP.

FR. HN.

TROMB.

CELLO

PERC.

(B.D.)

STEPHAN

THEY'RE HUNG ALL WRONG!

AS IF THIS WERE A HOUSE OF WHORES!

I WON'T

FLUTE

CLARINET

BASSOON

CELLO

PERC.

PIANO

FASTER



144

SHOOTING, STEPHAN RUNS UP THE STAIRCASE TO THE INDICATED DRAPES

1: 6A 1710

(SHOOT)

STEPHAN

HAVE IT! DO YOU HEAR? I WON'T HAVE IT! THIS OUT- RAG-OUS VUL-

VIOLIN

FLUTE

CLARINET

PIANO

XYLO.

MAHIMBA

PERC.

(sym)

(B.D.)

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AS STEPHAN REACHES TO CLUTCH
THE OFFENDING DRAPERY, ALL ACTION
STOPS —

ALL FREEZE

Musical score for STEPHAN and various instruments. The score includes staves for STEPHAN, VIOLIN, FLUTE, CLARINET, BASSOON, TRUMPET, FR. HORN, TROMBONE, CELLO, PIANO, XLYN, MARIMBA, and PERC. The lyrics for STEPHAN are: "GAR-I-TY! TEAR IT DOWN! I WON'T HAVE IT! I WON'T! I WON'T!" The score features complex musical notation, including triplets and various accidentals. A large "DO NOT COPY" watermark is visible across the page. At the bottom right, there is a circled "34" and some handwritten notes.



CAME UP ON P.M. STANDING BESIDE STEPHAN/BALCONY

RINGMASTER: (WITH FLOURISH) LADIES AND GENTLEMEN — AND CHILDREN OF ALL AGES!
MAY I DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE CENTER RING! —
FOR YOUR DIDACTICAL EDIFICATION, CHIEF JUSTICE
STEPHAN VOLTU WILL NOW PERFORM THE THRILLING,
AND CHILLING — FALL OF DEATH!
MAESTRO! if you please — !

FLOODS OUT—

STROBE LIGHT BEGINS — SLOW MOTION
FALL BY STEPHAN DOWN STAIRCASE —
RINGMASTER FOLLOWS, MADLY LASHING
OUT AT STEPHAN WITH HIS WHIP —

SNARE DRUM

Cello

(1/3 INTO FALL TAPES BEGIN)

TAPE
#1

$\text{♩} = 60$

STRINGS

QUARTET

ON LAMB OF GOD — WHO

TAPE
#2

$\text{♩} = 60$

STRINGS

QUARTET

TAPE
#3

$\text{♩} = 60$

STRINGS

QUARTET



STAIRS ENDS—STEPHAN'S BODY
COMES TO REST AT BOTTOM OF
STAIRCASE—SPOTLIGHTS UP ON
STAIRCASE—

1 $\text{♩} = 60$ 1

TRUMP. $\text{♩} = 60$

FR. HN.

TROMB.

CELLO

PERC. $\text{♩} = 60$

#1

TAK-EST A-WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD — HAVE MERCY UP-ON — US — OH LAMB OF GOD — THAT TAK-EST A-

#2

ON LAMB OF GOD — THAT TAK-EST A-WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD — HAVE MERCY UP-ON — US —

#3

ON LAMB OF GOD — WHO TAK-EST A-WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD — HAVE MERCY UP-ON — US —

$\text{♩} = 60$

TAPE #4

STRINGS

QUARTET

ON LAMB OF GOD — WHO TAK-EST A-WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD — HAVE MERCY UP-ON — US —



LIGHTS FADE AS RINGMASTER AND WIFE DEPART (R.M. TO TOP OF STAIRCASE, WIFE
OFF-STAGE) LEAVING STEPHAN'S BODY LYING AT BOTTOM OF STAIR.

THE LIGHT FADES...

TRUMP. FR. HN. TRUMB. CELLO. PERC.

(FADE OUT)

#1

why the sins of the world - have mercy up-on us ON LAMB OF GOD

(FADE OUT)

#2

ON LAMB OF GOD - WHO TAKEST A-WAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD - HAVE MERCY UP-ON US ON LAMB OF GOD

(FADE OUT)

#3

ON LAMB OF GOD - WHO TAKEST A-WAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD - HAVE MERCY UP-ON US ON LAMB OF GOD

#4

ON LAMB OF GOD - WHO TAKEST A-WAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD - HAVE MERCY UP-ON US



LIGHTS OUT

TRUMP. 2 *ff*

FR. HN. 4 *ff*

TRUMP. 2 *ff*

CELLO 4 *ff*

PERC. 2 4 (field drum)

ppp - grad cresc.

#1 [END OF TAPE 1]

#2 [END OF TAPE 2]

#3 [END OF TAPE 3]

(FADE OUT)

#4 [END OF TAPE 4]

ON LAMP OF GOD



PERC.

(3.2.)

fff

SUBI
PPP

SCENE TWO

SCENE 2

LIGHTS SUDDENLY UP ON CARD PLAYERS

p. 7

6

♩ = ca. 94

PLAYER #1

SOFT

STEPHAN VOLTOV HAS

VIOLIN

FLUTE

BASSOON

PERC.

HARPSICH.

PIANO



FAST AS POSSIBLE

⑦ ♩ = 64 184

PLAY #1 (3/4) DIED!

PLAY #2 (3/4) HOW DREAD- ful!

PLAY #3 (3/4) I'VE BEEN PROM-ISED HIS PO-SITION!

PLAY #4 (3/4) HIS WIDOW CRIED!

VIOLIN (3/4) *mf*

FLUTE (3/4) PIZZ. 4

CLAR. (3/4)

TRUMP. (3/4) (HARMON MTE.) (ST. MUTE)

FR. HAN. (3/4)

TRUMB. (3/4) (ST. MUTE)

BELLO (3/4) PIZZ. 7

PERC. (3/4) (FINGER CYN) (SMB. TOM-TOM) *f* (Xylo) *mf* (BID.) *mf* (SCATCH)

PIANO (3/4) (DAMPEN IN-SIDE BRIDGE) *pio* *fff*

PRINCIPLE

WMM



No. 10 24 Staves (Large Size)

M. M. COLE PUB. CO.

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PLAY #1

PLAY #2 DO YOU NEED AN FIL-1- ACTION?

PLAY #3

PLAY #4 DAMN YOUR CO-A-LITION, play bridge!

PIZZ. #

VIOLIN

FLUTE

CLAR.

BASSOON

TRUMP.

FR. HN.

BELLO

PERC.

(Bib.) (sub. cym.) (scrape with plectrum) (finger cym.) (w.b.) (sub. cym.) (sk.)

SOSTENUTO PED. sf (DAMPEN INSIDE BRIDGE) sf sf sf

PIANO



PLAY #1 3 Say HE SCREAMED for 3 whole days!

PLAY #2

PLAY #3 (trumps #2's end)

PLAY #4 WIN-NEE'S TAKE - LOS-ER PAYS!

LITTLE WON-DET!

HANGING ON

AS HE did!

VIOLIN

FLUTE

CLAR.

BASSOON

TRUMP.

FR. HN.

TRUMP.

CELLO (sm. tom)

PERC.

PIANO (BAMBOO INSIDE BRIDGE)

Pizz.

Pizz.

BVA

sf

sf



PLAY #1
PLAY #2
PLAY #3
PLAY #4

TO #1
WHOSE BID?
OH WELL!
WHAT'S TRUMP?
IT IS HE - WHO IS DEAD!
AND NOT
TO #4
SPADES!

VIOLIN
CLAR.
BASSOON
TRUMP.
FR. HN.
PERC.
PIANO

(marim)
(xylo)
(tri.)
(finger cym)
(w. ch.)
(TEN. CLKS)
(BID.)
(ZAMPEN INSIDE BRIDGE)

36



LIGHT ON PLAYERS OUT

LIGHT UP ON HOSPITAL SPOKESMAN SITUATED AT PODIUM AT
 FAR LEFT OF STAGE. SEVERAL "REPORTERS" RISE IN
 AUDIENCE IMMEDIATELY IN FRONT OF STEPHAN
 SPOKESMAN.
 FLASH GUNS FLASH!

PIZZ.
 CELLO

PERC.

(SUB. sym) >
 (STRIKE W/ DRUM STICK
 AND CHARGE)

HOSPITAL SPOKESMAN: — GOOD AFTERNOON — CHIEF JUSTICE STEPHAN VOLOVY SHERR,
 OF GOVERNMENT LAW COURT NUMBER FOUR WAS ADMITTED
 TO ST. PETERSBURG GENERAL HOSPITAL AT 4:32 THIS
 AFTERNOON SUFFERING FROM BRUISES AND LACERATIONS
 INFLICTED IN AN ACCIDENT AT HIS RESIDENCE, 1412
 ULICA KOSZYKOWA. INJURIES APPEAR SLIGHT, BUT
 HIS PHYSICIAN INFORMS ME THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE
 WILL REMAIN OVERNIGHT FOR ROUTINE OBSERVATION.
 THANK YOU —

[LIGHT OUT ON SPOKESMAN]

BRUISES
 BRUISES

